



# The Rose of Heaven and the Humble Prince's Journey

Once, in a humble village, there was a poor woman with two children. The youngest, a sweet and diligent girl, would venture into the forest daily to gather wood. On one such trip, a mysterious child with remarkable strength appeared out of nowhere and helped her gather and carry the wood home. As quickly as the child appeared, it vanished, leaving the girl in awe.

Excitedly, she told her mother about this strange helper, but her mother was skeptical. Then, one day, the girl brought home a beautiful rose, a gift from the mystical child. The child had promised that when the rose bloomed fully, it would return. Her mother, intrigued, placed the rose in water.

Tragically, on the day the rose bloomed, the young girl couldn't rise from her bed. Her mother found her lifeless, yet with a peaceful expression. That same day, the rose was in full bloom, symbolizing the child's return and the girl's journey to a better place.

In another tale, a King's son, heavy with thoughts and sadness, wondered how to reach heaven. One day, he met a poor, wise man who advised him that poverty and humility were the paths to heaven. The prince exchanged his royal garments for the man's ragged clothes and wandered the world for seven years, experiencing hardship and understanding true misery.

After seven years, he returned to his father's palace, unrecognizable. His pleas to see his family were dismissed and mocked by the servants. Desperate, he wrote to his mother about his hardships without revealing his identity. Out of compassion, the Queen arranged for him to stay under the stairs, where he was given food.

Unfortunately, one cruel servant deprived him of his meals, leaving him weak and fading.

As his health declined, the prince requested the last sacrament. As the priest performed the sacrament, all the bells in the town rang. The prince passed away, holding a rose in one hand and a lily in the other, with his story written beside him. After his burial, a rose and a lily grew on either side of his grave, symbolizing his journey and the purity of his heart in seeking heaven's grace.